विवरण

महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात के सूखा प्रवण जिलों में भूजल स्तर की जिलावार गिरावट

महाराष्ट्र

क्रम सं॰	जिला	भूजल स्तर (मीटर में)
1.	अहमदनगर	1 से 4.17 तक की कमी
2.	औरंगाबाद	1 से 5.19 तक की कमी
3.	बीड	1 से 9.26 तक की कमी
4.	जालना	1 से 5.48 तक की कमी
5.	नासिक	1 से 8.27 तक की कमी
6.	उस्मानाबाद	3 से 11.13 तक
7.	पूणे	1 से 10.3 तक की कमी
8.	शोलापुर	1 से 11.5 तक की कमी
9.	सांगली	1 से 10.4 तक की कमी
10.	सतारा	1 से 12.0 तक की कमी

क्रम सं॰	जिला	गुजरात उथले जलभृत गिरावट का स्तर (मी॰)	गहरे जलभृत गिरावट का स्तर (मी॰)
1.	अहमदाबाद	0.73 से 2.50 तक	12.9
2.	अमरेली	0.52 से 6.61 तक	3.18 से 7.12 तक
3.	बनासकांठा	0.68 से 9.44 तक	26.30
4.	भावनगर	0.55 से 10.25 तक	—
5.	जामनगर	0.20 से 7.57 तक	—
6.	कच्छ	0.22 से 5.69 तक	—
7.	मेहसाना	0.44 से 2.71 तक	0.57 से 50.37 तक
8.	पंचमहल	0.03 से 5.50 तक	—
9.	राजकोट	0.80 से 6.03 तक	—
10.	सुरेन्द्रनगर	0.13 से 6.60 तक	—

Water Scarcity in New Millennium

1077. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will be among the countries worst hit by water scarcity which will be a primary global concern in the new millennium; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to ensure that the country would not face steep cut backs in the supply of irrigation water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Rainfall in India varies greatly due to unequal seasonal and geographical distribution. Therefore, availability of water varies widely from one river basin to another. Although most of the river basins have sufficient water and are not likely to face water scarcity, some of the river basins like Sabarmati, west flowing rivers of Kutch and Saurashtra, East flowing rivers from Mahanadi to Godavari and East flowing rivers from Pennar to Kanyakumari are water short where waterscarcity situation exists.

(b) Keeping in view the future needs of water, the Government has taken vari-

ous policy and programme initiatives. These include adoption of National Water Policy (1987), Command Area Development Programmes, preparation of National perspectives for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit areas, water management practices promoting efficient and economic use of water for various purposes, emphasis on water conservation through various methods including use of latest technologies and peoples' participation in management of water for diverse uses as well as launching of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme since 1996-97 for expeditious completion of selected ongoing major and medium irrigation and multipurpose projects.

Vamsadhra Irrigation Project

1078. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission is considering a proposal from Andhra Pradesh for the Vamsadhara Stage-II, Phase-I Irrigation Project;

(b) whether any additional information has been sought from the State Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in giving techno-economic clearance for this Irrigation Project by C.W.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Outcome of Indo-Pak Talks on Tulbul Navigation Project

1079. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the talks held recently between India and Pakistan on Tulbul Navigation Project; and

(b) whether differences between the two countries on this issue have been narrowed down, if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b). During discussions held on 5.11.1998 between India and Pakistan on Tulbal Navigation Project as part of the composite dialogue process, both sides exchanged views and took note of the previous discussions from October 1987 to August 1992 on technical and legal aspects related to the project. India drew Pakistan's attention to the understandings reached in 1991 at Secretary level discussions. Pakistan however, denied that any understanding was reached in the past in respect of this project. The Indian side informed Pakistan that the proposed project was designed to regulate the flow of waters from the Wular Lake for navigational purposes and it did not involve any consumptive use and was fully consistent with the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty. It was also agreed that discussions on the project would continue during the next round of talks under composite dialogue process.

Search for Lost Saraswati River

1080. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to have a project initiated to search for lost Saraswati river in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, how and when Government plan to take up this initiative; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has initiated work for searching the palaeo drainage network in Western Rajasthan also referred to as the lost Saraswati River. The Central Ground Water Board has been entrusted with this responsibility during 1998-99. The Board